

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) EP 0 969 163 A3

(12) EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
02.02.2000 Bulletin 2000/05

(51) Int. Cl.⁷: E04F 15/04

(43) Date of publication A2:
05.01.2000 Bulletin 2000/01

(21) Application number: 99202903.3

(22) Date of filing: 29.04.1994

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL
PT SE

(30) Priority: 10.05.1993 SE 9301595

(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in
accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
98201555.4 / 0 877 130
94915725.9 / 0 698 162

(60) Divisional application:
99203328.2 / 0 969 164

(71) Applicant: Vällinge Aluminium AB
260 40 Viken (SE)

(72) Inventor: Pervan, Tony
170 72 Solna (SE)

(74) Representative: Giver, Sören Bo
Awapatent AB,
P.O. Box 5117
200 71 Malmö (SE)

(54) An edge lock for use in a flooring system

(57) The invention relates to a system for laying and mechanically joining building panels, especially thin, hard, floating floors. Adjacent joint edges (3, 4) of two panels (1, 2) engage each other to provide a first mechanical connection locking the joint edges (3, 4) in a first direction (D1) perpendicular to the principal plane of the panels. In each joint, there is further provided a strip (6) which is integrated with one joint edge (3) and which projects behind the other joint edge (4). The strip (6) has an upwardly protruding locking element (8) engaging in a locking groove (14) in the rear side (16) of the other joint edge (4) to form a second mechanical connection locking the panels (1, 2) in a second direction (D2) parallel to the principal plane of the panels and at right angles to the joint. Both the first and the second mechanical connection allow mutual displacement of joined panels (1, 2) in the direction of the joint.

Fig. 3c

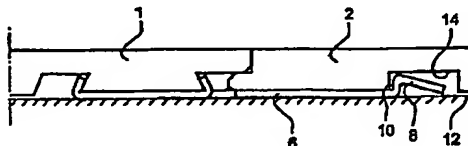
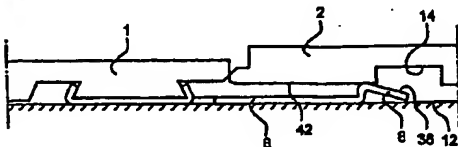


Fig. 3a



EP 0 969 163 A3

European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 28 2903

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.8)
A	FR 1 293 043 A (ETABLISSEMENTS PIRAUD PLASTIQUES) 5 October 1962 (1962-10-05) * figure 2, details 8,9,10,11 * * page 1, right-hand column, line 14 - page 2, left-hand column, line 17 * ---	1-4,6,8, 11,12	E04F15/04
A,P	WO 93 13280 A (JUNCKERS INDUSTRIER A/S) 8 July 1993 (1993-07-08) * abstract, details 1,2,3,14 * ---	1-3	
A,P	FR 2 691 491 A (GERAUD PIERRE) 26 November 1993 (1993-11-26) * page 3, line 5 - page 5, line 32; figures 1-8 * -----	1-3	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.8)
			E04F A47G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 16 December 1999	Examiner AYITER, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

EPO FORM 1503 (03.02.99) (P04001)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 28 2983

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

16-12-1999

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
FR 1293843	A	05-10-1962	NONE	
WO 9313280	A	08-07-1993	CA 2125876 A EP 0624221 A JP 7502580 T	08-07-1993 17-11-1994 16-03-1995
FR 2691491	A	26-11-1993	NONE	

EPO FORM P0488

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82